

## Informative / Explanatory

### Grade 6

#### Effects of The Great Depression

The Great Depression affected the people that lived through it in many ways. The things that I am going to explain are some of the things that affected the people who lived through the Great Depression. Having barely any money was one of the things that affected them. Also having less supplies affected them too. Having to take care of kids too also might have affected the people during the Great Depression.

First, I am going to talk about how having almost no money affected the people. It affected them because they were getting their money by working. Then their jobs were shutting down so their amount of money was shrinking and shrinking. They would do neighborhood favors and jobs but the amount of money they would get was five **dollors**. They also had to pay a bill for electricity every month. They had to pay for gas if **you** had a car and their house. That is why having almost no money affected them a lot.

Another reason the Great Depression affected the people was they **were having** less of the supplies they had. Like some of the people stopped delivery for several things such as milk and ice. They were also Also if they had kids they would need to do extra work and be able to

Focus / **topic** of the piece is clearly stated

**Introduces the topic clearly:** The writer gives no context, but does lay out the ideas she will discuss in the essay to follow

**Organizes ideas, concepts, and information** by category, within an overall cause-effect structure. Here, writer discusses the effect of no money.

**Develops the topic with relevant, accurate facts and concrete details using domain-specific vocabulary to explain** the effects of a lack of money during the Great Depression.

**Uses appropriate transitions to clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts**

care for them. They also had to pay more money if they had kids because they **have** to feed them too. They also had to take care of them. The parents have to care for them. If they are sick they can not just leave them at home they have to take care of them. They also might worry about them. If you had kids during the Great Depression not only would you worry about your kids and family.

**Develops the topic with relevant, facts and concrete details** about the effect of the Great Depression on childcare

**Analyzes evidence**

That is why if you had kids during the Great Depression it might be more difficult.

**Establishes and maintains a reasonably formal style**

Now you can see how living through the Great Depression was very difficult and affected many people who lived through it. It affected people in many ways like having no money or having a very little amount of it. Also if you had kids it might have been a little more difficult. They also had to live with less supplies. That is why I think the Great Depression affected the people who lived through it.

**Provides a concluding section that restates and follows from the explanation presented**

**Spelling** problems, including typos, are in yellow

**Missing apostrophes** in blue

**Punctuation** problems are in green

**Grammar and word choice** problems, including missing words, are in pink

In this on-demand assignment, students were asked to explain the effects of the Great Depression on people who lived through it. This writer gives no background about the Great Depression in the introduction (a weakness), but does state her topic / focus that the Great Depression affected people who lived through it in many ways and lays out what she will discuss in the writing to follow.

The writer organizes the evidence clearly by category (various effects of the Great Depression) to support the topic, and uses basic but appropriate transitions to clarify relationships between ideas and concepts. Within each chunk of text, the writer uses some domain-specific vocabulary ("*neighborhood favors and jobs*", "*stopped delivery for...milk and ice*") to name and explain / analyze the evidence about the effects, which she has taken from the texts she has read. This makes the writer's thinking and understanding easy to follow.

While the language is sometimes basic and informal ("*I am going to tell you*"), the bulk of the essay has an appropriately formal style for this grade level. The conclusion, while a bit repetitious, follows from the information presented.

***As kids learn to write, many times they will make errors because they are learning new words, phrases and writing skills.***

***Encourage and praise their creativity and exploration.***

This sample of student writing, aligned to the Common Core and annotated to show its strengths, is drawn from the **In Common** project. You can find more writing samples and learn more here:

<http://achievethecore.org/page/507/in-common-effective-writing-for-all-students>